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IN THE CLAIMS:

Amended claims follow.

1. (Previously Amended) A method implemented using a computer for dynamic adaptation of a system in accordance with a contract with criteria associated therewith, comprising:  
governing a security-related interaction between a plurality of components of the system utilizing the criteria of the contract, the components including an intrusion detection module which is subject to the governing;  
determining whether the security-related interaction between the components of the system meets the criteria of the contract; and  
adapting the security-related interaction between the components of the system upon the criteria of the contract not being met.
2. (Previously Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the security-related interaction between the components of the system is adapted by adjusting the contract.
3. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the contract is adjusted by a method selected from the group consisting of deactivation of the contract, modification of the contract, deletion of the contract, and activation of a different contract.
4. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the criteria of the contract include cost model criteria.
5. (Original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the cost model criteria is based on resource utilization.
6. (Previously Amended) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the cost model criteria is based on performance.

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7. (Original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the cost model criteria is based on service provisioning.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Previously Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the components include the intrusion detection module and an analysis module.
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Previously Amended) A computer program product for dynamic adaptation of a system in accordance with a contract with criteria associated therewith, comprising:
  - (a) computer code for governing a security-related interaction between a plurality of components of the system utilizing the criteria of the contract, the components including an intrusion detection module which is subject to the governing;
  - (b) computer code for determining whether the security-related interaction between the components of the system meets the criteria of the contract; and
  - (c) computer code for adapting the security-related interaction between the components of the system upon the criteria of the contract not being met.
12. (Previously Amended) The computer program product as recited in claim 11, wherein the security-related interaction between the components of the system is adapted by adjusting the contract.
13. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 12, wherein the contract is adjusted by a method selected from the group consisting of deactivation of the contract, modification of the contract, deletion of the contract, and activation of a different contract.
14. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 11, wherein the criteria of the contract includes cost model criteria.

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15. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 14, wherein the cost model criteria is based on resource utilization.
16. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 14, wherein the cost model criteria is based on performance.
17. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 14, wherein the cost model criteria is based on service provisioning.
18. (Cancelled)
19. (Previously Amended) The computer program product as recited in claim 11, wherein the components include the intrusion detection module and an analysis module.
20. (Previously Amended) An apparatus for dynamic adaptation of a system in accordance with a contract with criteria associated therewith, comprising:  
a module for:
  - (a) governing a security-related interaction between a plurality of components of the system utilizing the criteria of the contract, the components including an intrusion detection module which is subject to the governing;
  - (b) determining whether the security-related interaction between the components of the system meets the criteria of the contract; and
  - (c) adapting the security-related interaction between the components of the system upon the criteria of the contract not being met.
21. (Previously Amended) A method implemented using a computer for dynamic adaptation of a system in accordance with a contract with criteria associated therewith, comprising:  
governing a security-related interaction between a plurality of components of the system utilizing the criteria of the contract, the components including a plurality

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of intrusion detection modules, and at least one firewall which are subject to the governing;

determining whether the security-related interaction between the components of the system meets the criteria of the contract utilizing an analysis module; and

adapting the security-related interaction between the components of the system upon the criteria of the contract not being met utilizing the analysis module;

wherein the security-related interaction between the components of the system is adapted by adjusting the contract by a method selected from the group consisting of deactivation of the contract, modification of the contract, deletion of the contract, and activation of a different contract.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein the intrusion detection modules are adapted for communicating information to the analysis module for detecting intrusions.
23. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 22, wherein information includes generalized intrusion detection objects.